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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,899	06/23/2003	Shaoning Wan	1-19-10	7551

7590

07/28/2006

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EXAMINER

LA, NICHOLAS T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/601,899	Applicant(s) WAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Nicholas T. La	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 2617.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 05/16/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding independent **claims 1 and 8**, the applicant argues that secondary references Sawyer (WO 00/51365) does not teach the conversion of non-standard location area identifier received in the service network to a standard format location identifier for subsequence conversion into a geographic location and converting a received location area identifier into a standard format location area identifier.

The examiner disagrees. Sawyer teaches cell ID and/or location Area ID to a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) (page 4, line 15 to col. 5, line 12). This cell ID and/or Location Area ID then converted to a standard format representing the Location/Area such as sets of latitude and longitude coordinates (page 5, line 5 to 6).

In regard to the applicant's remarks about two-stage process (page 4, line 20-26), it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., two-stage process and example) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

See previous rejection attached below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10, 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rangarajan et al.(US Pub. No. 2003/0050075) in view of Sawyer (International Pub. No. WO 00/51365).

Regarding **claims 1, 8**, Rangarajan et al. discloses a system and method for determining a location relevant to a communication device and/or its associated user. Rangarajan et al. further discloses a method in a mobile telecommunications network, a method of determining an approximate location of a mobile station (paragraph [0011]-[0012]), comprising the steps of:

 sending a request to said mobile telecommunications network to determine a location of a target mobile station (paragraph [0025]);

 responsive to receipt of said request, said mobile telecommunications network identifying a base station (base station's cell; paragraph [0011], [0025]) and sector currently serving said mobile station (paragraph [0011], [0025]);

said mobile telecommunications network transmitting data for identifying said base station (base station's cell; paragraph [0011], [0025]) and sector (paragraph [0011], [0025]), and data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region, and a service provider of that base station (Figure 2, 3; paragraph [0014], [0030]-[0031], [0053]-[0055]);

in a database (Figure 2; paragraph [0030]-[0031]), translating between said data for identifying said base station (cell) and sector (paragraph [0011], [0025], [0031]-[0032]), and said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region, and a service provider of said base station (Figure 2, 3; paragraph [0014], [0030]-[0031], [0053]-[0055]);

However, Rangarajan et al. did not disclose a method, wherein in a database, translating between said data for identifying said base station and sector, and said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region, and a service provider of said base station to obtain identification in a standard format of said base station and sector; and

translating from said identification in a standard format of said base station and sector to a geographic location of said base station and sector.

In an analogous art, Sawyer discloses a geographical information for location-based service. Sawyer further discloses a method, wherein obtain identification in a standard format of said base station and sector (page 4, line 15 to page 5, line 12); and

translating from said identification in a standard format of said base station and sector to a geographic location of said base station and sector (page 5, line 2 to 12).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Rangarajan et al. location information database to include the implementation of a standard format such as taught by Sawyer in order to allow the system to employ inter-operate ability, providing inter-system handoffs, call delivery, validation and authentication features.

Regarding **claims 3, 10**, Rangarajan et al. further discloses a method, wherein said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a country (paragraph [0030]-[0034], [0053]-[0056]).

Regarding **claims 5, 12**, Rangarajan et al. further discloses a method, wherein said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a vendor (base station's cell/cell ID) (paragraph [0011], [0025], [0034]).

Regarding **claims 6, 13**, Rangarajan et al. further discloses a method, wherein said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a country and region (paragraph [0034]).

Regarding **claims 7, 14**, Rangarajan et al. further discloses a method, wherein said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a region (paragraph [0034]).

2) Claims 2, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rangarajan et al.(US Pub. No. 2003/0050075) in view of Sawyer (International Pub. No. WO 00/51365) and further in view of Kokkonen et al. (US Pub. No. 2005/0032532).

Regarding **claims 2, 9**, Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer disclose a method to approximate location of a mobile station in a mobile telecommunication network. However, Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer did not disclose a method of authenticating whether said request comes from a source authorized to make the request. In an analogous art, Kokkonen et al. discloses a method for the provision of location information. Kokkonen et al. further discloses a method of authenticating whether said request comes from a source authorized to make the request (Figure 1, 2, 3; paragraph [0018]-[0020]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer method to approximate location of a mobile station in a mobile telecommunication network to include a method of authenticating whether said request comes from a source authorized to make the request such as taught by Kokkonen et al. in order to allow a target user to select authorized requesting user to receive his/her location information

as well as preventing provision of location information to unwanted requesters.

3) Claims 4, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rangarajan et al.(US Pub. No. 2003/0050075) in view of Sawyer (International Pub. No. WO 00/51365) and further in view of Nelson (US Patent No. 6,470,182).

Regarding **claims 4, 11**, Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer disclose a method to approximate location of a mobile station in a mobile telecommunication network. However, Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer did not disclose a method, wherein said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a service provider. In an analogous art, Nelson discloses a mobile station roaming in a multiple service provider area. Nelson further discloses a method of said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a service provider (col. 3, line 5 to 23, col. 5, line 44 to 57). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Rangarajan et al. and Sawyer method to approximate location of a mobile station in a mobile telecommunication network to include a method of said data for identifying at least one of a country, a vendor, a region and a service provider consists of data for identifying a service provider such as taught by Nelson in order to notify the user of the terminal whether he/she is in a home area or extended/roaming area hence he/she would be able save money by not making calls in extended area.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas T. La whose telephone number is (571)-272-8075. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571)-272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Nicholas La
07/17/2006



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